



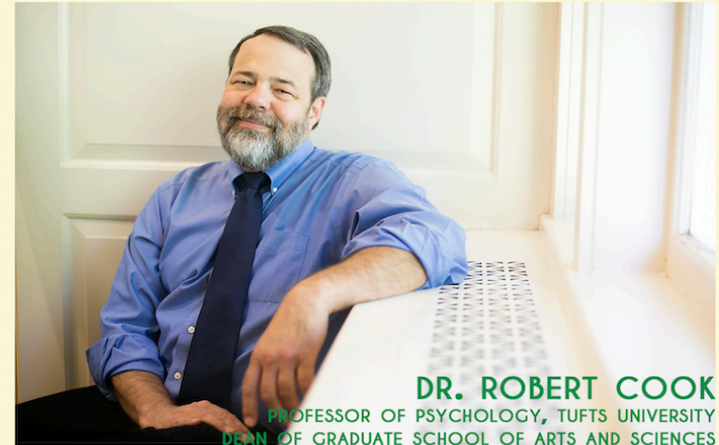
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

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 UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

38TH ANNUAL DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR LECTURE SERIES

SEPTEMBER 17-19TH / 3:00 - 4:30 PM



DR. ROBERT COOK

PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY, TUFTS UNIVERSITY
DEAN OF GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

SEPTEMBER 17TH
CCIS 1-160

**THE BIRD'S EYE VIEW: THE COMPARATIVE
ANALYSIS OF VISUAL COGNITION**

SEPTEMBER 18TH
CAB 243

**BEAUTY AND THE BEAST: THE COMPARATIVE
EXAMINATION OF AESTHETICS**

SEPTEMBER 19TH
CCIS 1-160

**TIME'S ARROW: THE INTEGRATION OF
INFORMATION OVER TIME**



Biography

Dr. Robert Cook

Professor of Psychology
Dean of Graduate School of Arts and
Sciences

Cook began his career at Tufts in 1986, when he joined the Department of Psychology as an assistant professor. He was promoted to full professor in 1999, and served as department chair from 2005 to 2011. He is a member of the American Psychological Association and a past president of the Comparative Cognition Society.

He has studied animal cognition and behavior for more than 25 years. His comparative research, supported by the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health, has focused on stimulus control, discrimination learning and memory in animals. In particular, he has been very interested in the mechanisms of visual perception and discrimination learning in pigeons and starlings, and their comparative relations to our own perception of the world.

Cook received a B.S. in psychology from Ohio State University and his doctorate in biopsychology from the University of California, Berkeley. He was also a National Research Service Award Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Texas Health Science Center in Houston. He is co-founder and current publisher of *Comparative Cognition & Behavior Reviews* and has served on the editorial boards of the top journals in animal cognition. He has also been very active in broadening the impact and public visibility of the scientific work in the discipline through the Internet with the publication of the multimedia ebooks *Avian Visual Cognition* and *Animal Spatial Cognition*.

Lecture 1:

The bird's eye view: The comparative analysis of visual cognition

September 17th, 2014

1-160 Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science (CCIS)

Do animals visually experience a rich object-filled world similar to our own? This presentation will discuss the evolutionary and comparative aspects of visual perception and cognition in animals. The investigation of visual cognition in birds will be featured and contrasted with findings in primates. The contrast of these two classes of highly visual vertebrates reveals much about the interaction between the software and hardware of vision and its implementation in different brain organizations. The larger implications for a general theory of vision will also be presented.

Lecture 2:

Beauty and the beast: The comparative examination of aesthetics

September 18th, 243 Central Academic Building (CAB)

How do animals experience art and music? Do they share any experience in common with our own reactions? This wide ranging presentation examines what is experimentally known about how animals experience these human creations. Speculations as to the cognitive processes that might be involved with the production and appreciation of art and how it evolved will be attempted.

Lecture 3:

Time's arrow: The integration of information over time

September 19th, 2014

1-160 Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science (CCIS)

Our experience of the world proceeds along as a series of sequential events that continuously unfold over time. As a result, we have evolved have a variety of perceptual, memory, and cognitive mechanisms for integrating the past with the present. This presentation asks how pigeons integrate visual and auditory stimuli and events over time. Using a variety of different stimuli and approaches, how sequential information is represented, retained, and used by birds across these different modalities is examined.

History of the Lecture Series 1975 - 1986

- 1975 Frank Geldard (Princeton University) - "Sensory Saltation: Metastability in the Perceptual World."
- 1976 Benton Underwood (Northwestern University) - "Temporal Codes for Memories: Issues and Problems."
- 1977 David Elkind (Rochester University) - "The Child's Reality: Three Developmental Themes."
- 1978 Harold Kelley (University of California, Los Angeles) - "Personal Relationships: Their Structures and Processes."
- 1979 Robert Rescorla (Yale University) - "Pavlovian Second-Order Conditioning: Studies in Associate Learning."
- 1980 Mortimer Mishkin (National Institute of Mental Health-Bethesda) - "Cognitive Circuits."
- 1981 James Greeno (University of Pittsburgh) - "Current Cognitive Theory in Problem Solving."
- 1982 William Uttal (University of Michigan) - "Visual Form Detection in 3-Dimensional Space."
- 1983 Jean Mandler (University of California, La Jolla) - "Stories, Scripts, and Scenes: Aspects of Schema Theory."
- 1984 George Collier (Rutgers University) - "Learning and Motivation: Function and Mechanism."
- 1985 Alice Eagly (Purdue University) - "Sex Differences in Social Behavior: A Social Role Interpretation."
- 1986 Karl Pribram (Stanford University) - "Holonomic Brain Theory: Cooperative Processing in the Configural Aspects of Perception and Action."

History of the Lecture Series (1987 – 1999)

- 1987 Abram Amsel (Texas at Austin) - "Behaviourism, Neobehaviourism and Cognitivism in Learning Theory."
- 1988 Robert Siegler (Carnegie-Mellon) - "How Children Discover New Strategies."
- 1989 Robert Efron (University of California, Martinez) - "The Decline and Fall of Hemispheric Specialization."
- 1990 Phil Johnson-Laird (Princeton University) - "Human and Machine Thinking."
- 1991 Timothy Salthouse (Georgia Institute of Technology) - "Mechanisms of Age-Cognition Relations in Adulthood."
- 1992 Scott Paris (University of Michigan) - "Authentic Assessment of Children's Literacy and Learning."
- 1993 Bryan Kolb (University of Lethbridge) - "Brain Development, Plasticity, and Behaviour."
- 1994 Max Coltheart (Macquarie University) - "Our Mental Lexicon: Empirical Evidence of the Modularity of Mind."
- 1995 Norbert Schwarz (University of Michigan) - "Cognition and Communication: Judgmental Biases, Research Methods, and the Logic of Conversation."
- 1996 Gilbert Gottlieb (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill) - "Prenatal Roots of Instinctive Behavior: A Theoretical and Experimental Exposition of Probabilistic Epigenesis."
- 1997 C. Randy Gallistel (University of California, Los Angeles) - "Basic Conditioning from an Interval Timing Perspective."
- 1998 Harold W. Stevenson (University of Michigan) - "Learning from other Cultures: Achievement and Society."
- 1999 Melvyn A. Goodale (University of Western Ontario) - "The Origins of Vision."

History of the Lecture Series (2000-2013)

- 2000 K. Anders Ericsson (Florida State University) – "The Complexity and Power of Deliberate Thought: From Protocol Analysis of Exceptional Memory to the In-vivo Dissection of Expert Performance."
- 2001/02 Mark Snyder (University of Minnesota) – "Personality, Motivation, and Social Behavior: Understanding Individuals and Their Social Worlds."
- 2003 Michael Tomasello (Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology) – "Lectures on Children and Chimpanzees."
- 2004 Michael J. Ryan (The University of Texas at Austin) – "Sexual Selection and Sensory Exploitation."
- 2005 Gary S. Dell (University of Illinois) – "Slips of the tongue: The Linguistic and Freudian Traditions; Aphasic speech Errors: Testing Freud's Continuity Thesis; and Implicit learning, Phonotactic Constraints, and Speech Errors."
- 2006 Michael A. Arbib (University of Southern California) – "Crusoe's Brain: Social Cognition and the Mirror System."
- 2007 Richard M. Lerner (Tufts University) – "Applying Developmental Science to Promote Positive Youth Development and to Enhance Community Life."
- 2008 Denise C. Park (University of Texas at Dallas) – "Images of the Aging Mind; Developing a Cultural Neuroscience of Aging; and Following Doctors' Instructions: Medical Adherence."
- 2009 David C. Rubin (Duke University) – "Autobiographical Memory."
- 2011 Tomáš Paus (The Rotman Research Institute) – "How Environment and Genes Shape the Adolescent Brain"
- 2012 Chi-Yue Chiu (Nanyang Business School) – "Socially Motivated Superstitions: Mutual Constitution of Society and the Mind."
- 2013 Arie Kruglanski (University of Maryland) – "Three Lectures on Motivation."